

Authorities negligent as foul smell, smoke, fires from
compost plant pose health risk to thousands of residents

UNDER GAG ODOUR

‘KSPCB had ordered closure of unit some time ago’

I Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

It is a routine for the hapless residents to run from pillar to post seeking a permanent solution to the perennial problems including bad odour, smoke and fires arising from the accumulated refuse-derived fuel (RDF) at the Karnataka Compost Development Corporation (KCDC) operating in Kudlu.

The authorities concerned have been negligent and apathetic to fix the problem for so long now.

These problems can be fixed only if the elected representatives, politicians, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) authorities, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) engineers and KCDC management make a sincere effort but, as usual, the authorities concerned have failed to mitigate the woes of the people residing in the vicinity

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>



MIDNIGHT DINER

Eatery owners stress on 24X7 service

PAGE 6

The new GRAND i10 NIOS

Price Starts @ ₹5.92 lakh*

Also available in Automatic

Test Drive the Hyundai Grand i10 Nios before you decide on any car

Best in segment

LED daytime running lamps (DRLs)

New

8.89 cm (3.5") Speedometer with multi information display

Modernity Refreshing Grey Upholstery

1st in segment

USB Charger

6 Airbags Standard

1st in segment

Wireless phone charger

Tilt Steering

New

Electronic Stability control (ESC)

Edge over Competition

Features	Hyundai Grand i10 NIOS	Maruti Suzuki Swift	Maruti Suzuki iGNIS
	Asta	Zxi	Alpha
New Age Design	Sharkfin Antenna	Yes	No
	Roof Rails	Yes	No
	Unique C Pillar Branding	Yes	No
Intelligent Technology	Auto Headlamp	Yes	Yes
	Emergency Stop Signal	Yes	No
	20.25 cm (8") Touch Screen Infotainment with Smartphone Connectivity	Yes	17.78 Cm
	Wireless Charger	Yes	No
	Front USB charger Type C	Yes	No
	Cruise Control	Yes	Yes
Outstanding Safety	Side & Curtain Airbag	Yes	Only Dual Front
	TPMS highline	Yes	No
	Eco Coating Technology	Yes	No
Splendid Interiors	Rear AC Vents	Yes	No
	Rear Power Outlet	Yes	No
	Cooled Glovebox	Yes	No
Peace of Mind	3 Yr/100,000 km Standard Warranty	Yes	2 Yrs/40k Kms
	Free Road Side Assistance	3 Years	2 Years

Superiority against SWIFT +15 Features

Superiority against iGNIS +16 Features

*Terms and conditions apply. Ex showroom price. Features and specifications may vary. Source: From respective manufacturer's product brochures. For more details visit your nearest Hyundai showroom.

Blue Hyundai

9591100001

www.bluehyundai.co.in

Info@bluehyundai.in

Lakshmi Hyundai

8884499033

www.lakshmihyundai.co.in

marketing.blr@lakshmihyundai.co.in

Pavan Hyundai

9364012906

www.pavan.hyundaimotor.in

Info@pavanhyundai.com

Advait Hyundai

9606076451

www.advaithyundai.com

corporatesales@advaithyundai.com

Trident Hyundai

8496000181

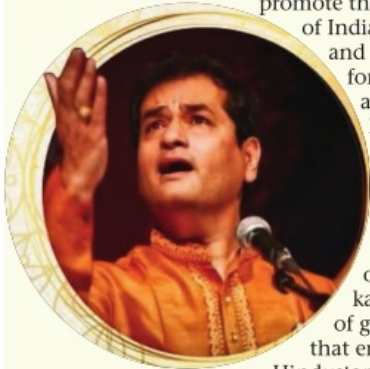
www.tridenthyundai.com

manjunath@tridenthyundai.com

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Artistic tune

The Shibulal Family Philanthropic Initiatives (SFPI) is set to organise Sangamam, which aims to promote the rich tapestry of India's heritage and diverse art forms to a wider audience. It sets the stage for a captivating series of musical concerts, offering a kaleidoscope of genres that encompass Hindustani, Carnatic, and a vibrant array of folk-art forms. This seventh edition features a live dhrupad performance by maestro Pt Uday Bhawalkar.
Where: St John's Auditorium
When: Saturday, February 10; 6-8 pm



02 Series of craft

The Grand Rajasthani Exhibition is back in town with the latest collection of artistic goodies. The exhibition-cum sale has been organised by Maaruthi Enterprises. You can explore a range of handicrafts, including Odisha tie and dye, handlooms, jewellery, carpets, jutis, marble crafts, Odisha Pattachitra painting, Madhubani paintings, and more.
Where: Srinivasa Kalyana Mantapa, behind Ranka Colony, Devarachikkanahalli Road, Someswar Layout, Ramanashree Enclave, Bilekahalli
When: until February 19, 10 am to 9 pm



03 Rural art



Project Tarasha and Creative Dignity are organising the Tarasha Craft Exhibit, which is a four-day exhibition with an artisan-first approach. The event aims to support and showcase rural craft entrepreneurs and will feature more than 30 artisan enterprises. The inauguration is set to happen on Thursday.
Where: Bangalore International Centre, Domlur;
When: Thursday, February 8; 2:30 pm; craft exhibition: February 9 and 10



Busy at work

Workers making arrangements for a state level Janata Darshan at Vidhana Soudha on Tuesday

Government steps up to end female foeticide

Health Dept wants sleuths to curb female foeticide; health minister stresses on imposing stringent penalties for those involved in sex determination tests

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharvMirror

The Health Department is considering the deployment of police officers to address issues related to illegal scanning centres and unauthorised abortions. The department has formally requested the Home Department to assign an ACP rank officer along with two inspector rank officials to oversee and curb illegal activities in the health sector.

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao outlined the plans, stating that a state-level task force would be established under the chairmanship of the health commissioner. Additionally, district-level task forces, led by the district health officer and district police officers, will be formed. These task forces will monitor compliance with regulations, inspect scanning centres and maternity homes, and take necessary actions. The health department is developing standard operating procedures for inspections and seeking police support for effective implementation.

Rao stressed the need for an ACP and two inspectors to assist the health department in dealing with emerging issues. "The collaboration aims to strengthen the enforcement of existing regulations and ensure the effective implementation of the law," he said.

Looking ahead, the Health



Health minister proposed conducting audits for all future abortions to gather information on reasons for procedures

Minister proposed conducting audits for all future abortions to gather information on the reasons for the procedures. Acknowledging the prevalence of illegal abortions in the state, Rao suggested outsourcing data analysis to institutions like Bangalore Medical College or other experts to provide comprehensive reports. "There is a necessity for imposing more stringent penalties for those involved in sex determination tests or illegal abortions. Currently, individuals face a Rs 10,000 fine and a relatively lenient jail term. The Health Department plans to discuss and implement stricter measures in collaboration with the legal department, applicable to all, including doctors and technicians

from diagnostic centres," he said.

It may be noted that a jaggery manufacturing centre in Hullenahalli village, Mandya district, was repurposed into a scanning centre for conducting sex determination tests, indicating a severe violation of ethical practices.

Rao pointed out the gravity of detecting gender through such means, labelling it the worst form of cruelty. Addressing the severity of the situation, he stressed the need for public education on this matter and called for a concerted effort between the Health Department and the Police Department to meticulously address the issue. With thousands of abortions having taken place, he urged instilling a sense of fear against undergoing

such procedures. He also highlighted the significant gender ratio gap in the state, emphasising the imperative for societal change and awareness creation.

In response to the female foeticide scandal that has rattled the state, the Karnataka government has conducted a series of meetings to assess the situation and take appropriate action. The

“The collaboration aims to strengthen the enforcement of existing regulations and ensure effective implementation of the law” – Dinesh Gundu Rao

investigation into the foeticide scandal in Bengaluru has unearthed shocking revelations.

According to the police, the accused have reportedly carried out 3,000 female foetus abortions to date. The perpetrators set a target of 1,000 abortions per year, aiming to profit by charging between Rs 20,000 and Rs 25,000 per termination of pregnancy. The scandal came to light on October 15, 2023, when Baiyappanahalli police attempted to stop a suspicious vehicle, leading to a chase and eventual apprehension. Subsequent interrogation revealed the involvement of nine individuals, including two doctors and three lab technicians, in this nefarious activity, resulting in their arrest.

Cyber criminals sweep of Rs 96 lakh, lock, stock and barrel

CRIME FILES

A software engineer residing in Kothanur fell victim to a cyber scam, losing a staggering Rs 96 lakh. The fraudsters enticed the man by inviting him to join a Telegram group promising valuable stock market insights. Upon joining, the victim was instructed to download an application and provide sensitive information such as bank details and PAN card number.

The victim, identified as Ayyappa, reportedly saw a message last November offering stock market investment tips on his mobile. Intrigued, he clicked on the link provided, leading him to the Telegram group where he encountered an individual named Anna Chatterjee. Chatterjee persuaded him to disclose his banking information and PAN card details.

Once the victim shared his personal information, he was directed to a website resembling a legitimate trading platform.

The group members within the Telegram channel fabricated success stories of substantial profits within a short timeframe, deceiving the victim into investing substantial amounts of money.



stantial amounts of money.

Additionally, the victim was coerced into transferring funds to various bank accounts under the guise of brokerage fees.

After approximately 75 days of investing, the victim grew suspicious as he had failed to receive any returns on his investments.

Sensing foul play, he promptly lodged a complaint with the NorthEast Cyber, Economic, and Narcotics (CEN) Crime Police Station. Authorities have initiated legal proceedings against the perpetrators under the Information Technology Act Section 66 (D) for impersonation through communication devices or computer resources, along with IPC Sections 419 and 420 for cheating and dishonestly inducing property delivery.

Property deal

A former rowdy sheeted was apprehended by the Byadarahalli police in RT Nagar in connection with a fraudulent land deal. JK

JK, also known as Jedarahalli Krishnappa, is accused of orchestrating a land grab scheme involving 16 acres using fabricated documents. One Basavaraj lodged a formal complaint with the authorities against JK.

Father, son gang up to kill mother

Two persons have been apprehended in connection with the killing of a 40-year-old woman in KR Puram on February 2. Initially the juvenile son of the victim, identified as Netra, hailing from Mulbagal in Kolar district, confessed to the crime, taking full responsibility for his mother's death.

However, subsequent investigations revealed the involvement of Netra's husband in the act.

During the course of their inquiry, law enforcement discovered two distinct fingerprints on the murder weapon linked to Netra's killing. Subsequently, Chandrappa, Netra's spouse, was apprehended after his fingerprints matched those found on the weapon.

Allegedly, Chandrappa, along with his son, orchestrated Netra's murder due to suspicions of her involvement in an extramarital affair and her purported habit of prolonged absences from home.

Reports indicate that Netra was employed at a private firm in the city. The duo purportedly hacked Netra to death. It is reported that Chandrappa's son opted to surrender himself to authorities, persuaded by the belief that penalties for juveniles are less severe. The arrests were made following a complaint lodged by Netra's brother.

POCSO case against hockey player

An FIR has been lodged under the Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act against Indian hockey player Varun Kumar following allegations of sexual assault made by a 22-year-old woman. The complainant, hailing from Hyderabad, approached the Jnanabharathi Police Station on February 5 and leveled serious accusations against the athlete.

In her statement to the police, the woman claimed that the incidents date back to 2017 when she was undergoing volleyball training at the Sai Sports Authority of Indian Coaching Centre at the age of 16. According to her, Varun Kumar, who was at the same coaching center for a national camp in 2018, attempted to establish contact with her through Instagram and mutual acquaintances, persisting despite her initial refusals.

Allegedly, the woman agreed to meet him only after he assured her of marriage. She recounted an incident in 2019 when Varun took her out for dinner in Jayanagar and subsequently assaulted her in a hotel room, despite being aware of her minor status. She asserted that this pattern of abuse persisted for five years, during which Varun purportedly reneged on his promise of marriage and resorted to blackmail by threatening to expose private photographs. **BMB**

BM Education

Advertorial Promotional Feature

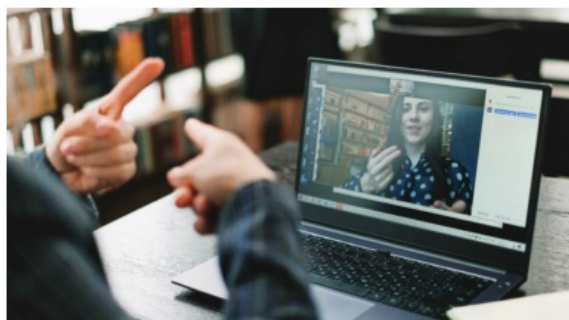


C.V. Raman, Indian physicist:
‘True knowledge is gained not through rote learning, but through curiosity and the desire to explore’

Kudos to institutions giving facilities to disabled students

The University Grants Commission (UGC) said Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) providing facilities for individuals with disabilities would receive additional consideration during the accreditation process. Furthermore, 13 regulatory authorities across various educational sectors have decided to issue advisories to HEIs, urging them to seek recognition from the UGC and establish monitoring committees to address issues concerning both deemed-to-be and private universities. This decision was reached during an inter-regulatory authority meeting convened by the UGC to assess the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) of 2020.

Kumar emphasised on the importance of incorporating facilities for persons with disabilities in accordance with the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) guidelines into the accreditation criteria of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council



(NAAC). Additionally, he highlighted the need for aligning faculty selection and promotion guidelines with UGC regulations to maintain consistency across all regulators. The regulatory bodies, including the National Medical Council, the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine, and others, agreed to encourage industrial organizations associated with them to nominate professionals to join the UGC's professor of practice portal.

They also pledged to collaborate in the realm of online education and emphasized the effective use of technology in teaching

and learning. Kumar advocated for integrating modules on the Indian knowledge system into all disciplines. Moreover, the regulators resolved to promote faculty participation in capacity-building programs conducted by Malviya Mission Centers to ensure alignment with UGC regulations and to prevent discrepancies.

HEIs will receive guidance from their respective regulators to provide details of initiatives undertaken under the NEP on the UGC UTSAH portal. Meanwhile, the University Grants Commission (UGC) removed draft guidelines from its website proposing

the “dereservation” of reserved posts in cases where sufficient candidates from SC, ST, and OBC categories are not available. This action followed controversy surrounding the issue. UGC Chairman M Jagadesh Kumar stated that the guidelines were removed from the website because the feedback submission period for stakeholders had concluded.

The draft guidelines sparked controversy on Sunday, with the UGC proposing that any vacancy reserved for SC, ST, and OBC candidates could be labeled “unreserved” if there weren't enough candidates from these categories. The Congress party denounced this move as an attempt to undermine quotas in higher education institutions. In response, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan clarified that no posts would be de-reserved, emphasizing that there is no ambiguity about reservations following the enactment of the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers' Cadre) Act, 2019.

PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY
Established under Section 201 of UGC Act, 1956 | Presidency University Act, 2013 of the Karnataka Act No. 41 of 2013
Bengaluru

INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR Ph.D. 2024

ENGINEERING

- Civil Engineering
- Computer Science & Engineering
- Information Science
- Electronics & Comm. Engineering
- Electrical & Electronics Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Petroleum Engineering

MANAGEMENT & COMMERCE

- Marketing Management
- Finance
- General Management
- Human Resource Management
- Commerce

SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES

- Economics
- English
- Law
- Media Studies

SCIENCES

- Mathematics
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Environmental Science

- Research fellowship upto Rs. 70,000 per month for full-time scholars
- Cutting-edge research facilities & resources to ignite your research journey
- Interdisciplinary collaborations to broaden your perspective and enrich your research
- A vibrant academic community to connect with fellow researchers & scholars from around the world.

APPLY BEFORE 15th FEBRUARY 2024

9880904891 | presidencyuniversity.in
phd@presidencyuniversity.in

Presidency University, Itgalpur, Rajanakunte, Yelahanka, Bengaluru 560064

Power usage exceeds entitled units, leads to higher bills

Increased power consumption as summer approaches leads to excess charges; government addresses citizens' concerns

I Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharvMirror

While the government has provided additional units to those with lower power consumption, many individuals previously eligible for Gruha Jyoti are now realising that their power usage surpasses the Entitled Units (EU). Numerous residents of the city, qualifying under the Gruha Jyoti scheme, are required to pay for the additional units used beyond their EU. Such consumers are obligated to pay only the difference amount exceeding the EU. For instance, if a consumer's EU is 150 units and they have utilised 160

units, they must pay for the excess 10 units. As we approach the summer months, the increased usage of fans and ACs by residents may lead to power bills surpassing the EU.

Expressing his concern, Murali Rao, a resident of Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, stated, "For the last few months, I received zero bills thanks to the Gruha Jyoti scheme. However, this month, I was shocked to be asked to pay Rs 98. Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM) personnel explained that I used 11 units more than the EU. Maybe, in the last few months, I was not using the fan much due to cool weather, but with nights becoming hotter, power consumption might have gone up." Responding to this, a senior BESCOM official noted, "We

observed an increase in power consumption in many houses, possibly due to poor rainfall. This could lead to an uptick in power usage. Moreover, many are using more electrical equipment as they are receiving free power. So far, we haven't received complaints that power bills increased due to faulty readings."

BESCOM officials clarified that consumers matching the average consumption of the previous year will receive a zero bill

The BESCOM officials clarified that consumers matching the average consumption of the previous year will receive a zero bill. If their bill exceeds the average, they must pay for the additional units consumed (differential units), remaining within the 200-unit limit. Con-

sumption beyond 200 units requires payment of the entire bill amount, as the Gruha Jyoti scheme will not apply. For instance, if a consumer's average monthly consumption is 70 units, they will receive 77 units of free power per month (calculated at 10 per cent extra power). Assuming a monthly consumption of 100 units, the consumer must pay for 23 units (100-77=23).

Energy Minister KJ George said, "Consumers using less than 48 units will receive 10 units, not 10 per cent of their additional units. For example, those consuming just 20 units in a month will get only two extra units as part of their EU. We've decided to provide them with 10 units extra to appreciate their low usage instead of 10 per cent of their average consumption, benefiting them. Due to this offer, BESCOM will have to bear an additional cost of Rs 500 to Rs 600 crore and this amount will be reimbursed by the government to BESCOM as this was a poll promise."

BBMP initiates high-density corridor makeover project

I Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has finally started work on the makeover project of the 9 high-density corridors proposed in 2022. The project costs the Palike an estimated Rs 237.9032469 crore, with 70-80 per cent of the work expected to be completed by June 2024. The work on the nine major high-density corridors in Bengaluru is expected to receive a major makeover, with more focus being laid on providing uniform carriage width and pedestrian-friendly footpaths. The roads will be relaid using stone mastic asphalt, which has been shown to increase the life of roads according to experts.

BBMP has proposed the project for nine high-density corridors: Bellary Road, Outer Ring Road from Goraguntepalya to KR Puram, Old Madras Road, Old Airport Road, Kanakapura Road, Hosur Road, Mysore Road, Magadi Road, and Tumkur road. In total, the whole stretch comprises 117.2 km.

"Work on the project has been started at all 9 corridors. As per the plan, roads will be laid with stone mastic asphalt which increases the life of roads. We will also be focusing on providing uniform-width



White topping of the road from KR Circle to Freedom Park on Seshadri Road (File photo)

footpaths through the stretch. We want to complete at least 70-80 per cent before June this year," said a senior BBMP official from the TEC department. BBMP officials confirmed that cycle lanes would also be part of the plan. "Wherever possible, we will be considering cycle lanes on footpaths. But it would be undertaken after seeing the width of the footpath," he added.

Out of the 117.2 km, 83.13 km have been proposed for improvement, including the 6.45 km of Hosur Road that has not been included as part of the work. 6.45 km of the

Hosur Road was not considered for improvement under this project as it was considered under road widening and white topping. 18.6 km of the Outer Ring Road from Goraguntepalya to KR Puram would be the longest corridor in the project where 17.93 km has been proposed for improvement. Followed by Old Madras Road, stretching over 18.5 km with improvement proposed for 15.25 km.

The tender for the project has been awarded at the cost of Rs 237.9032469 crore. The tender was floated in three packages and it

has been awarded to three agencies. The tender for package 1 (Bellary Road, Outer Ring Road from Goraguntepalya to KR Puram) has been awarded to Star Infratech at the cost of 77.5575981 crore, package 2 (Old Madras road, Old Airport Road) to BSR Infratech at the cost of 76.6963385 crore and package 3 (Kanakapura Road, Hosur Road, Mysore Road, Magadi Road, and Tumkur Road) to KVR Constructions at the cost of 83.6493103 crore.

Work on the longest stretch Outer Ring Road from Goraguntepalya to KR Puram has also started. "Work is ongoing between Hope Farm junction to Varthur Kodi, Varthur Kodi to Munekolala overbridge, and Munekolala overbridge to HAL. In this stretch, BBMP is building better quality footpaths, uniform road width and better streetlights. Streetlights will be forked and facing one towards the footpath and another to the carriageway," said Clement Jayakumar, General Secretary of Mahadevapura Task Force (Mobility).

Experts appreciate BBMP's efforts to incorporate stone mastic asphalt into its road-building process. "It's an old technology, but it's great that BBMP is adopting this technology. Now, there are a lot of studies that have shown the effectiveness of stone mastic asphalt along with scientific measurements," said civil engineering expert, MN Sreehari.

whatsapp
MIRROR
9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

○ Pavement problems Ulsoor



The footpath outside Ulsoor Lake was fixed recently, but it is already broken and dangerous.

○ Hoardings are back Hebbal



With the change in government, the hoardings are all back in Hebbal.

○ Poster cutouts Hoskote



How come the BBMP and police departments allow the display of a poster cut out of a politician attached to the high beam light post near the Hoskote Circle near the flyover?

CCTV project to enhance security on Kanakapura Road

Iffath Fathima@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In a collaborative effort between the Changemakers of Kanakapura Road Association (CMKRA) and the Bangalore City Police, the Garuda CCTV Command Centre was inaugurated at the Thalagattapura Police Station to enhance the security infrastructure of the area. The Garuda CCTV project, a joint initiative by CMKRA and the local police, boasts over 101 high-definition 5MP IP CCTV cameras strategically placed across the Thalagattapura Police Station limits. Aiming for comprehensive coverage, the association is on a

mission to install an additional 200 cameras, with the installation of 25 cameras already underway.

The project includes a state-of-the-art command centre featuring nine 55-inch LED wall projections, creating a centralised hub for monitoring and managing the extensive camera network. VK Srivatsa, Secretary of CMKRA, highlighted the project's primary objective, stating, "The primary objective of this project is to enhance the security and safety of the area."

Residents of the locality have taken the initiative to finance the entire project, showcasing a strong community commitment to ensuring the safety of their surroundings.

Kiran Kumar from Sobha Forest View Apartment emphasised, "The citizens are carrying out awareness amongst the other public on the installation of the cameras."

The project aims not only to deter criminal activity but also to improve law enforcement effectiveness. Srivatsa VK explained, "With a comprehensive CCTV system in place, we will be able to monitor and deter criminal activity, making the area safer for residents and visitors alike."

The cameras are strategically placed at key locations, including Narayana Nagara, Vajarahalli Road near Sobha Forest Edge, and Kanakapura Road near The Magic Faraway Tree. Srivatsa VK mentioned that the

control room is currently focused on creating awareness, educating the public about road safety, and monitoring various traffic violations through the public address system.

Rapid Info Solutions, the technology integrator for the project, has played a crucial role in bringing the vision of a comprehensive CCTV network to fruition. Various Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) of Kanakapura Road, commercial establishments, and corporations have contributed to the initiative's funding. Kiran Kumar, Joint Secretary of CMKRA, expressed gratitude for the support received from Inspector Jagadish and the team at Thalagattapura Police Station. "By establish-



ing this CCTV command centre, we aim to complement your efforts in maintaining law and order within the area," Kumar said.

As the project progresses, the community envisions a safer and more secure environment, demonstrating the power of collaboration between residents and law enforcement in building a resilient and secure community.

Industrialists and civic body at loggerheads once again



An automobile auxiliary unit in Peenya Industrial Area

BBMP seizes properties of alleged defaulters in property tax payment in Peenya, angered business owners demand inspection prior to 'harassment'

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) authorities have begun seizing industrial units of those industrialists who have allegedly defaulted on paying property tax. Around 30 industrial units were recently sealed by the BBMP authorities for not paying the property tax.

Meanwhile, industrialists are up in arms against the indiscriminate seizing of industrial units by the BBMP authorities. They said that they have been paying property tax regularly. They also complain that the BBMP authorities are fixing property tax without taking them into confidence.

Stating that no industrialist wants to default on paying the property tax, Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry president Ramesh Chandra Lahoti suggested that the BBMP authorities should inspect the industrial

units in the presence of the owners and revise or fix the property tax if violations are found.

"Inspection of the industrial units will clear the misunderstanding between the industrialists and BBMP authorities. All industrialists have to pay the property tax. I appeal to the BBMP Chief Commissioner to direct revenue authorities to visit the industrial units and inspect them to find out any violations. Let the BBMP authorities serve notices to such industrialists who violated the norms," said Ramesh Chandra Lahoti.

Coming down heavily on the BBMP authorities for seizing industrial units at Peenya Industrial Area, Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association president CA Shashidhara Shetty said that a delegation of industrialists met Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and BBMP authorities and requested them to stop seizing industrial units for alleged default of paying the property tax.

"We are not against paying the property tax but oppose coercive methods used by the BBMP authorities who claim that they have the authority to seize industrial units for defaulting on property tax. Let them provide basic amenities at the industrial areas or estates within the BBMP jurisdiction," said Shashidhara Shetty.

On Monday, the BBMP Chief Commissioner made it clear that the BBMP is not taking tough measures against those who failed to pay property tax for residential properties and small shops. He

There are no proper roads and street lights in the Industrial Area. Let the authorities fix these problems before demanding the industrialists to pay the property tax arrears

—Arif HM, president, Peenya Industries Association

said the BBMP has been issuing demand notices to those with property tax arrears of more than Rs 10 lakh.

Condemning the indiscriminate seizing of industrial units by the BBMP authorities, Peenya Industries Association president Arif HM said that he opposed the seizure of industrial units.

"The industrialists who own the units in Peenya Industrial Area have been paying property tax. It is not fair to harass industrialists on the pretext of property tax arrears. There are no proper roads and street lights in the Industrial Area. Let the authorities fix these problems before demanding the industrialists to pay the property tax arrears. We may be compelled to stage a dharna if the BBMP authorities fail to provide basic infrastructure at the Peenya Industrial Area," said Arif.

IN BRIEF

NIA charges 12 in colossal trafficking scheme

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has taken a decisive step in unravelling the intricate web of human trafficking plaguing our borders by submitting a charge sheet against 12 individuals allegedly involved in a colossal trafficking operation. The accused, predominantly Bangladeshi nationals, stand accused of orchestrating a scheme to unlawfully transport foreign nationals across borders, exploiting vulnerabilities, and circumventing legal channels.

Among those named in the charge sheet are MD Pirdaus Bapari, Muhammad Oli Ullah, Amol Das, Masool Sardar, MD Sohag Ghazi, Suman Sheikh, SK, MD Bellal, MD Mirazal Islam, Zakir Khan, MD Badal Hauladar, MD Kabir Talukdar, Gharami Mohammad, and Bashir Hosan.

The modus operandi of the accused involved crossings through border points at Benapole, Jashore, and Akhaura, facilitated by a network of people operating on both sides of the Indo-Bangla border. Initially targeting Bangladeshi



nationals, the operation expanded alarmingly, with reports emerging of 22 individuals being duped with promises of employment and a better life, only to be ensnared in a harrowing ordeal. Forced to toil in deplorable conditions at a waste sorting warehouse in Bengaluru, the victims were subjected to exploitation and coercion. Shockingly, the traffickers resorted to intimidation, branding their victims as "illegal immigrants" and threatening them with imprisonment should they dare to resist.

The NIA's diligent investigation led to the seizure of 61 Aadhaar cards and other Indian identity documents from the accused, shedding light on the extent of their operation and raising concerns about the integrity of our document verification processes.

Marketing Executive @ Forging Industry

Job Description:

1. Responsible for business development.
2. New Customer development for potential business.
3. Handle customers independently.
4. Keep track of Sales and revenues.
5. Provide trustworthy feedback and after sales support.
6. Build long-term relationships with new and existing customers.

Skills:

1. Proven working knowledge as a business development/sales executive.
2. Proven sales track record.
3. Experience in customer support.
4. Proficiency in MS office.
5. Market knowledge.
6. Communication and negotiation skills.
7. Ability to build rapport.
8. Time Management and planning skills.
9. Technical qualification like BE/DME preferred.

R R Forgings Pvt.Ltd.

No. 332, 4th Main, 9th Cross, Peenya 4th Phase, Bangalore -58
Contact: 9663727505 / 9980237265

PRE-BUDGET APPEAL

Can we have your order to keep doors open 24x7?

Eatery owners stress on need to have round-the-clock service; urge CM to listen to their request; association highlights that other states allow business at night

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Hoteliers Association (BBHA) has written to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah with several pre-budget appeals. Among others, the most prominent appeal remains their request to allow restaurants and eateries to stay open 24/7.

PC Rao, President of BBHA, has consistently stated that the move would help generate business and create employment while also catering to the needs of customers, especially those who work night shifts. On Friday, members of the association met with Home Minister G Parameshwara. "He assured that the government is working on it, and the permission will be granted soon," Rao said while claiming that the matter was discussed in a cabinet meeting. Last year, the association also brought their appeal to the notice of Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar. The association then claimed that their request was received positively.

On the other hand, the Bengaluru City Police have previously denied permission requested for 24/7 operations, citing a shortage of staff to ensure law and order. According to figures by the association, Bengaluru houses over 24,000 small and large hotels within the city limits. Out of these, close to 10% of them are willing to operate 24/7. Many are also hoping to open restaurants exclusively to serve customers such as auto drivers, newspaper suppliers,



According to figures by the association, Bengaluru houses over 24,000 small and large restaurants within the city limits; out of these, close to 10% of them are willing to operate 24/7

“After my shift ends at 4 am, I usually have to wait until 6 am for restaurants to open. Our health condition is already in vulnerable state

— Misbah Sheikh, night shift worker

media personnel, and flower sellers who work at night. The association has maintained that permission must be provided for the functioning of small eateries and restaurants in commercial areas only to ensure that residential areas remain undisturbed. They have also highlighted that other states, such as Kerala, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu, have allowed 24/7 operations.

The association has also request-

ed that the trade license, the Food and Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) licence, and the Shop and Establishment licence be made perpetual for the ease of doing business. Further, the association has appealed to the state government to consider granting industrial status to the hotel sector.

They have noted that since the hotel industry plays a vital role in the growth of tourism, those operat-

ing in tourist destinations must be provided with special concessions in terms of licence registration and property taxes. Misbah Sheikh, a night shift worker, said that it would be of much benefit if the government considered allowing operations 24/7.

"There are days when I am unable to prepare food to sustain myself throughout the shift. After my shift ends at 4 am, I will usually have to wait until 6-6:30 am for restaurants to open. Our (night shift workers') health condition is already in a vulnerable state due to the odd working hours. Food is a necessity to help us power through," she said.

HC fines CM for blocking traffic during 2022 protest

Karnataka High Court on Tuesday imposed a fine of Rs 10,000 on Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and other Congress leaders in connection with blocking the road during a protest and also said that the act of "blocking the road because one is a representative of the people cannot be accepted".

The bench headed by Justice Krishna S Dixit set aside the petition of CM Siddaramaiah seeking quashing of trial proceedings in the Special Court. The bench also ordered CM Siddaramaiah to be present before the Special Court for People's Representatives on March 6.

The court also asked the AICC General Secretary and Karnataka in-charge Randeep Surjewala to be present before the court on March 7, Minister for Transport Ramalinga Reddy on March 15, and Minister for Large and Medium MB Patil on March 11. All leaders have been fined Rs 10,000 each.

A fine has been imposed for dragging a police sub-inspector, Zaheeda, attached to the High Grounds police station in Bengaluru into the case and making her a party. The counsel for CM Siddaramaiah requested a stay on the order until the appeal was made. The bench refused to heed and maintained that if representatives of the people followed the law, the people would also follow them. If the protests are held on the streets, the people would suffer, it stated.

Fine of Rs 10,000 on Siddaramaiah and other Congress leaders in connection with protest that threw traffic out of gear on Race Course Road

The city life is a torture; the protests further worsen the situation in cities, and for the same reason, the act of blocking roads can't be acceptable, the bench said while rapping the Congress leaders.

The FIR was booked against CM Siddaramaiah and other Congress leaders with the High Grounds police station on April 14, 2022. The Congress party had organised a protest over the suicide case of contractor Santhosh Patil and demanded the resignation of then Minister KS Eshwarappa.

During the protest, traffic was thrown out of gear on the busy Race Course Road. The traffic had come to a halt for several kilometres, causing severe inconvenience to the public.

The police had lodged an FIR on charges of blocking roads, causing traffic jams, and affecting the law and order system. The CM and others had approached the High Court seeking quashing of the NBW issued by the special court and proceedings against them in the lower court.

— IANS

Demand: Increase honorarium for anganwadi employees

In a demonstration at Freedom Park in Bengaluru today, the Karnataka State United Anganwadi Employees Sangh (R), affiliated with the All India Union Trade Union Centre (AIUTUC), voiced their demands to the Karnataka government for the upcoming budget for the fiscal year 2024-25.

The primary demand put forth by the association is a significant increase in the honorarium for anganwadi employees. K Somasekhara Yadgiri, the state president of the association, emphasised, "The government should fulfil the pre-election promise of increasing the honorarium for anganwadi workers who have been tirelessly serving the poor people of the state for almost five decades. This increase should be announced in the budget for the years 2024-25." Among their demands is a substantial increase in the honorarium for Anganwadi employees, a commitment made by the government during the pre-election period. The AIUTUC is emphatically urging the government to raise the honorarium to Rs 15,000, recognising the invaluable service provided by anganwadi workers over almost five decades.

In addition to the honorarium, the associa-



Anganwadi workers protested at Freedom Park on Tuesday

tion is calling for a significant boost in retirement compensation. Pension workers are seeking an increase to Rs 50,000, while helpers are requesting an enhancement to Rs 30,000. The AIUTUC points to the successful West Bengal model, where retirement benefits are set at Rs 5 lakh, as a benchmark for these demands. Apart from this, they raised concerns related to the retirement benefits for

already-retired employees. Despite promises of Rs 50,000 and Rs 30,000 in retirement compensation, these individuals are currently not receiving their entitled benefits. The association is urging the government to take immediate and appropriate steps to rectify this issue.

Addressing the long-standing problem of unpaid medical expense assistance for the treatment

“The govt should fulfil promise of increasing honorarium for workers

— Somasekhara Yadgiri, Anganwadi Association

of various serious diseases, the AIUTUC is pushing for an increase in the subsidy to at least Rs 2 lakh from the employees' welfare fund. AIUTUC is advocating for the implementation of gratuity payments in accordance with the Supreme Court's directive. The association asserts that this step is essential to ensuring the financial security of anganwadi employees. They also added promotions to higher positions based on both seniority and merit.

— BMB



OVER THE MOON

Why now is the time to address humanity's impact on the moon

Humans have always looked at the sky, using the stars as navigation guides or for spiritual storytelling. Every human civilisation has looked to the stars and used celestial movements to measure time and find meaning.

This insatiable thirst for knowledge combined with technological advancements have made it possible for us to dream of travelling in space. These dreams became more and more real after the Second World War, the Industrial Revolution, the Cold War and the large-scale exploitation of the Earth's resources.

Dreams of space travel started small with the launch of Sputnik-1 by the Soviet Union, and escalated with the US Apollo landing on the moon in 1969.

Six decades later, plans are ramping up for space tourism, missions to the moon and Mars, and mining on the moon.

The Lunar Resources Registry, a private business that locates valuable resources on the moon and helps investors conduct the required exploration and extrac-

tion operations, notes: "The space race is evolving into space industrialisation."

According to NASA, "the moon holds hundreds of billions of dollars of untapped resources," including water, helium-3 and rare earth metals used in electronics.

The dawn of the Anthropocene

As a group of academics researching various aspects of environmental sustainability on Earth, we are alarmed at the speed of these developments and the impacts resource exploitation will have on lunar and space environments.

There is a movement among the international geologic scientific community calling for a new epoch — the Anthropocene — reflecting the enormous extent to which human activity has altered the planet since the end of the Second World War.

Stratigraphers — geologists who study the layers of rock and sediment — look for measurable global impact of human activities in the geologic record. According to their research, the starting

point for the Anthropocene has been identified as beginning in the 1950s, and the fallout from nuclear testing.

To shock humankind into preventing the extensive destruction in space that we have wrought on Earth, it may be effective to add a "lunar Anthropocene" to the moon's geologic time scale.

The case for a lunar Anthropocene is interesting. It can be argued that since the first human contact with the moon's surface, we have seen anthropogenic impact. This impact is likely to increase dramatically. This is presented as justification for a new geologic epoch for the moon.

Damaging the Earth

This new "human epoch" is hotly debated among stratigraphers as well as researchers in other disciplines. For humanities researchers and artists, the importance of the Anthropocene lies in the power the concept has to evoke human responsibility for bringing the Earth's system to a tipping point.

In The Shock of the Anthropocene, historians Christophe Bon-

neuil and Jean-Baptiste Fressoz argue that the new human epoch entails recognizing that technological advances — which have driven socio-political economies relying on extractivism, consumption and waste — have led to the extent of damage we measure on Earth at present.

For millennia, most societies understood the importance of their relationship with the natural world for survival. But industrialization and the endlessly growing economy in developed countries has destroyed this relationship.

For example, trees used to be respected for providing timber, food, shade and more. But our industrial growth changed all that; in the past 100 years, more trees have been cut than had been felled in the preceding 9,000 years.

A lunar Anthropocene

And now the Anthropocene, this age of human impact, is also arriving on the moon.

NASA estimates there are already 227,000 kilos of human garbage littering the moon, mostly from space explorations, including moon buggies and other equipment, excrement, statues, golf balls, human ashes and flags, among other objects.

An increasing number of moon missions and extracting resources from the moon could destroy lunar environments. This mirrors what has happened on our planet: humans have used this collection of "natural resources" and produced enough waste and degradation to bring us to the current sixth mass extinction precipice.

Our throwaway society leads to not only habitat destruction on Earth, but also now on the moon and in space. We must rethink what we really need. Without a fully functional Earth system, including biodiversity and nature's contribution to life, we will be unable to survive.

If the intent is to issue a word of caution and pre-emptively shock and elicit a feeling of responsibility on the part of those actors likely to impact the moon's surface, it may very well be the right time to name a lunar Anthropocene. This may help prevent the kind of extensive and careless destruction we have caused and continue to witness on Earth.

(By Christine Daigle, Jennifer Ellen Good and Liette Vasseur, Brock University, The Conversation)



All you need to know about...

Body temperature blues

Higher body temperature link to depression

People with depression have higher body temperatures, suggesting there could be a mental health benefit to lowering the temperatures of those with the disorder, according to a new study.

What remains unclear

The study, published in the journal Scientific Reports, doesn't indicate whether depression raises body temperature or a higher temperature causes depression. It's also unknown whether the higher body temperature observed in people with depression reflects decreased ability to self-cool, increased generation of heat from metabolic processes or a combination of both.

Cooling off treatment

The findings shed light on how a novel depression treatment method might work, said lead author Ashley Mason, Associate Professor of psychiatry at University of California San Francisco in the US.

A small body of existing, causal studies has found that using hot tubs or saunas can reduce depression, possibly by triggering the body to self-cool, for example, through sweating.

Heat-based treatment

"Ironically, heating people up actually can lead to rebound body temperature lowering that lasts longer than simply cooling people down directly, as through an ice bath," said Mason, who is also a clinical psychologist at UCSF.

"What if we can track the body temperature of people with depression to time heat-based treatments well?"

Details of the study

Researchers analysed data from more than 20,000 participants from 106 countries who wore a device that measures body temperature, and also self-reported their body temperatures and depression symptoms daily.

— IANS

MIRRORLIGHTS

Bullied teenagers could display early signs of psychosis, study finds

Bullied teenagers could exhibit higher chances of experiencing early stages of psychosis, a mental state characterised by being out of touch with reality, new study has found.

Researchers scanned the brains of nearly 500 bullied teenagers and found lower levels of the neurotransmitter glutamate in the region known to be crucial to regulate emotions, the anterior cingulate cortex (ACC). Glutamate, usually the most abundant

neurotransmitter, is involved in wide-ranging functions, including moderating moods.

The researchers at the University of Tokyo, Japan, also used questionnaires to track bullying victimisation in these adolescents and employed formal psychiatric measurement methods to assess their experiences.

The team found that bullying was associated with the teenagers experiencing preclinical stages of psychosis. They explained that

these symptoms "come close" to psychosis, but do not meet the full criteria for a clinical diagnosis of psychotic disorders. Some of these disorders include schizophrenia and the manic state of bipolar disorder.

"Studying these subclinical psychotic experiences is important for us to understand the early stages of psychotic disorders and for identifying individuals who may be at increased risk for developing a clinical psychotic ill-



ness later on," said Naohiro Okada, lead author of the study published in the journal Molecular Psychiatry.

— PTI

Why this 'toxic' plant must shut down

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of KCDC plant. "We have been complaining to the authorities and elected representatives but nothing has been done till date. It will be tough to cope with the smoke and bad odour during the summer. There were fire mishaps in summer last year but the authorities are yet to clear the accumulated RDF," said Venkatesh HS, a resident.

The residents of Kudlu, Somasundara Palya, Haralur, and Hosapalya have been appealing to the authorities concerned to clear the accumulated RDF material from the KCDC plant premises.

"It has become tough to cope with bad odour. There are some health issues here due to the RDF material," said Raghavendra Arihole, who owns a condiment shop.

Stating the KCDC has been flouting all standard operating procedures in their operations and violating all the norms since ages, Kamesh Rastogi of Kudlu, Haralukunte, Hosapalya, Somasundarapalya and Parangipalya (KHHSP) Residents' Welfare Association

said more than 50,000 citizens, including kids and senior citizens, are forced to inhale toxic gases and exposed to foul odour all the time.

"The KSPCB had ordered the closure of this unit earlier but the KCDC is still flouting all the norms; citizens are suffering daily amid the nauseating stink. All RDFs as captured on February 4 can be seen lying in the open which is a serious health and fire hazard as summer is approaching," said Kamesh Rastogi.

Kamesh said residents witnessed fire incidents three times in this RDF. "God knows why KSPCB (or CPCB) is not taking any actions against KCDC. Clean air and peaceful living are our fundamental legal rights as per the Constitution of India. Our #Right2Breath is being denied. We strongly urge KSPCB & GoK to take cognisance of this serious health hazard and issue #ShutdownKDC order again immediately," he said.

The residents have complained to the KSPCB about the KCDC plant but no action was taken. The KHHSP Residents Welfare Association wrote a

letter to KSPCB chairman on May 26, 2023 seeking an appointment with him but till date the residents did not receive a reply from the pollution board.

Sandeep Kumar Singh from Kudlu said the stench from the KCDC plant has made the lives of people living in the surrounding areas miserable. "It forces us to keep our windows closed and live in an unhealthy environment. The plant is operating without any equipment or measures to control the stench. We expect the KSPCB to take action to control the pollution; we have already submitted numerous letters and complaints to them regarding this issue. However, our efforts have been in vain as no action has been taken yet by KSPCB," said Singh.

Meanwhile, KSPCB environmental engineer Sudhakar said he is aware of the problem. "I have received complaints from the residents. I have already issued an order to take measures to prevent odour emanating from the RDF material. I will issue one more notice to the KCDC in this regard," he said.

Traffic congestion is clearing, bit by bit

Bengaluru's Commissioner of Police, B Dayananda, said during a press conference held on Tuesday that the recent Tom Tom report shows that the city has shown improvements in terms of traffic congestion.

He said that the city has been able to achieve this because of a range of initiatives spanning traffic engineering, public transportation enhancements, targeted interventions at congested junctions, and infrastructure improvements.

He said that extensive traffic engineering interventions such as junction improvements, redesigning, median closures, relocation of bus stops, closure of U-turns, and signal phasing changes have helped in the improvement.

Dayananda highlighted specific decongestion interventions slated for highly congested junctions like Hebbal Junction, Tin Factory, Goraguntepalya, and Sarakki. By targeting these hot-spots, authorities aim to mitigate traffic snarls and enhance com-

muter mobility in these areas.

Acknowledging the importance of public transportation in easing traffic congestion, he said by bolstering the city's metro network, authorities aim to encourage more commuters to opt for public transit, thereby reducing reliance on private vehicles and alleviating pressure on road networks.

By collaborating with the Bangalore Bruhat Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), the road infrastructure improved, particularly on high-traffic density corridors.

Dayananda also outlined future strategies aimed at further enhancing traffic management which included introduction of Artificial Intelligence-based traffic signals, integration of AI and cutting-edge technologies for traffic management, enabling authorities to leverage data-driven insights for more effective decision-making.

He said the plan is to collaborate with various agencies, premier research institutes, and NGOs for the effort.

Your Connect

jobs

ACCOUNTS

PART TIME JOBS

SITUATION VACANT

ACCOUNTANT

ACADEMIC

GENERAL

FEDERAL PUBLIC SCHOOL
(Affiliated to CBSE, New Delhi)
Thousandra Main Rd, B'lore - 64

Required Experienced & Qualified

- Kindergarten (NTT/ Montessori)
- Primary (PRT's)
- High School (PGT's)

English Mathematics
Physics Geography
Chemistry Computer
Biology Physical Education
History / Civics Commerce / Economics
Hindi Artificial Intelligence

- Excellent Communication skills
- Minimum Experience of 3 Years in reputed schools
- Passionate, Sincere & Student Friendly
- Female Candidates Only

Send your resume to
federalpublicschool@gmail.com
9008581599, 9845860935

WANTED
ACCOUNTS MANAGER
Graduates with minimum 3 Years Experience in Accounting, with Knowledge of Tally.

Send resume to
atmanand@chariotworldtours.com

CHARIOT
3446/40, 1st F Cross,
Next to Bunts Sangha,
Vijayanagar,
Bengaluru 560040
Call: 9945775555
www.chariotworldtours.com

OTHER VACANCIES

GENERAL

TEACHERS required for Hindi, English, Science, Mathematics, Computer science. Qualification: B.ed, Walk in interview: Sri Vidya Niketan School, Yeshwantpur. Contact: 9945201342, 9900858193.

REQD-PRE-SCHOOL
Teachers, Female only, Min Qualif: Any Degree / NTT. Radiant School of Excellence, Gundlpet, Candidates ready to Relocate only Call : 9980777633

WANTED Science Teacher For Highschool Sagar Convent Kanakapura Main Bangalore 82 Near APS Engineering College Good Salary: 9342552428

CALLING RETIRED, Housewife, VRS, Business people. Be connected to reputed Bank. WFH and earn over 50k pm. Contact : 9380382651

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

HIRING! Dhruvdes Honda:
1. Service & Sales Managers.
2. Floor Supervisors.
3. Service Advisors.
4. Sales Executive.
Experienced in Two Wheeler Automobile Industry. Call - HR : 95388 63713, 81470 03339.

GLOBAL International India's No1 Registered Club Part-Time Job M/F Daily income 10,000 to 15,000 PF & Esi WhatsApp 9886959077/9538417964

PART TIME JOB OPPORTUNITY for Retirees/ VRS, & Self Employed by a Reputed MNC in Bangalore. Call: 99027 49632/8861791147

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I H. Prakash Nakshathri S/o Vishwanatha Nakshathri residing at Shree Kaivalya Nilaya, KRS Agrahara, Kunigal Town, Tumkur District - 572130 stating that my name was mentioned as Prakasha Vishwanatha Nakshathri. Now I have changed my name as H. Prakash Nakshathri (H means Hathoklu) in the passport and my place of birth in the old passport mentioned as Shedimane Karnataka and in my new application I have mentioned it as Udupi. But my actual place of birth is Shedimane Village, Udupi District and kindly request you, please issue of my new passport with place of birth as per old passport, my date of birth is 28.02.1970. All the above information is true and correct. Therefore, I have filed an affidavit before Notary and Lawyer B.R. Narayana Gowda, Kunigal dated 06.02.2024.

I, Rajashekar S/o Lingappa, R/at # 409, 2nd D Main, 11th Block, 2nd Stage Nagarbhatti B'lore 560072, have changed my name to Rajashekar K L, for all purposes

I, TUMKUR NAGARAJA SWARNAMBA R/at No.106, Meghana ACS Vasundhara Apt, Inner Ring Road, Kadirenahalli Park BSK 2nd Stage, Bengaluru- 560070, have changed my name to SWARNA RAJ vide affidavit dated:31/1/2024 Before Notary B. M. Chandrashekar Bangalore.

I, FAHMIDA KHATOON, R/a Malur Taluk, Huladenahalli Post, Huladenahalli-563137, I, have changed my name to FAHAMIDA KHATOON Vide affidavit dated 03/02/2024 Sworn before Notary: M. Rajendra, Bangalore

I, Abdul Baseer Furqan R/o No:- 18/6, 6th Cross, Devaraj Urs Nagar, Old Guddadahalli, Bangalore 560026 have changed my minor Son name from Mohammed Abdan Aamiri to Mohammed Abdan Aamere for all purposes

I B Jasmin Elezebeth W/O, Vijay Kumar R/o 106 ,2nd Floor, Subin Residency, Bds Gardens Geddalahalli Kothanur Bangalore 560077 have changed my name to Elizabeth Vijay Kumar.

I, Mohamed Sufyaan S/o Mohammed Aleemulla R/o #1/3-2 GF, Naveed Ahmed Building JJ Residency 4th Cross, rajanna Layout B'lore-560011 have changed my name to Mohammed Sufyaan.

I, Venkata Krishna Lakstani, S/o. Ramakrishna Lakamsani, R/o: Near Main Road, Budiwal Camp, Budiwal Po, Raichur-584167, have changed my name to VENKATA KRISHNA LAKAMSANI for all purposes.

I Tejas Shivaprasad S/o Shivaprasad BB 5th stage, Rajarajeshwari nagar, Bangalore-98 have changed my name from Tejas S Prasad to Tejas Shivaprasad for all future purposes.



Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. The Times Of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and Owners of The Times Of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

I, RAJESHWARI PRABHUS WAMY, D/ o Virupakshappa, Aged 47 years residing at 103, 10th cross, Balaji Layout, RTO Off. Road, Mallathahalli, Bangalore 560056 has changed my name from RAJESHWARI PRABHUS WAMY to RAJESHWARI for my all future purposes vide affidavit Dt. 02-02-2024 sworn before notary DEVARAJA E. B.lore

I, Zaheera Khaton w/o Syed Khaleel Ur Rahman Raheem R/o Bada Makan Rd Horapete chitradurga-577501 have changed my name to Zahara Khatoun

I Prashanth Prem Kumar S/O, Jayaraman R/o T.f.01 4th Floor Mi Kuteeram Apartment Near Deva Matha Central School Ashirwad Colony Horamavu Blr-560043 have changed my name to Jayaraman Prem Kumar.

I, Sandeep Subbaraju S/o R Subbaraj, R/at # 3891, 2nd Main, Thungabhadra Road, 2nd Cross, Girinagar 4th Phase, Bengaluru 560085 have changed my name to Sandeep Subbaraj, for all purposes

LOST & FOUND

LOST: I, Pushpalatha W/o Mahesh R/at No.12, 2nd Floor, RR Apartment, Vajarahalli main road, Nelamangala Town, Bangalore rural district, have lost original sale deed of Site No.298, K.M.No 71/298, measuring East to West: 30 Ft, North to South: 40 ft, Sy No.77/2 and 78/2 of Vajarahalli Village, Purchased Rathna from Suresh, registered in Nelamangala Sub-registered office on 05.11.2004, No.NMG-1-04534/2004-05, CD No.NMGD23 documents lost while shifting the House on 07.09.2023. Regarding this we lodged a police complaint in Nelamangala Town police station on 07.09.2023. If anybody found please contact Mobile no. 6362364260 or handover to the near by police station.

Bill to check unfair means in govt recruitment, exams

Exams conducted by UPSC, Staff Selection Commission, entrance tests such as NEET, JEE

The Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed 'the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024, which seeks to deal sternly with malpractices and irregularities in government recruitment examinations and competitive entrance tests.

The bill covers exams conducted by the UPSC, Staff Selection Commission and entrance tests such as NEET and JEE. Bonafide candidates and students as defined in the Bill shall not be liable for action within the purview of the Bill.

The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024 was introduced in Lok Sabha by Minister of State for Personnel and Training Jitendra Singh.

Singh said the proposed law is meant to safeguard the interest of meritorious students and candidates. "This is above politics and concern which deals with the daughters and sons of this country, which we all of us should share. There are few doubts as we have not read the bill thoroughly. I want to make it clear that the students or the candidates do not fall in the purview of this legislation. This Bill is for those who indulge in unfair means and adversely impact the public examination system for wrongful gains," he added.

The bill has stringent provisions against malpractices. Students in several states have suffered in the past due to examinations getting cancelled



File photo of candidates in a queue outside a centre for UPSC prelims

Minister says Bill is for those who use unfair means to impact public exam system for wrongful gains

for malpractices including paper leaks.

Officials said the bill, aimed at competitive and entrance exams, entails setting up a high-level technical committee to tackle challenges of cyber security in public examinations.

At present, there is no specific substantive law at the national level to deal with unfair means adopted or offences committed by persons, organized groups, or any other agency or organisation that

adversely impacts the conduct of public examinations by the central government and its agencies.

The bill provides for a hike in the punishment for malpractices. The objective of the bill is to bring greater transparency, fairness and credibility to the public examination systems and to reassure the youth that their sincere and genuine efforts will be fairly rewarded and their futures are safe.

The bill covers exams conducted by the UPSC, Staff Selection Commission and entrance tests such as NEET and JEE. Bonafide candidates and students as defined in the Bill shall not be liable for action within the purview of the Bill.

Officials said the government has introduced several reforms to enhance transparency in examinations for recruitment as well as admission to higher education institutions. These include introducing self-attestation, shortening the examination cycle (from 18-22 months to 6-10 months), doing away with interviews for recruitment to Group 'C' and 'D' posts, introduction of computer-based tests and issuance of appointment letters through digital means under 'Rojgar Mela'.

In the recent past, many states have had to cancel or were unable to declare the results of their public exams due to the adverse impact of unfair practices. **ANI**



UGC bill tabled in Uttarakhand Assembly; tribals exempted

The Uttarakhand government on Tuesday tabled in the assembly the Uniform Civil Code bill, the first such move in any state after Independence that could be followed by similar legislation in other BJP-run states.

The hill state's small tribal community is exempted from the proposed law, which also mandates registration of live-in relationships.

Children born of live-in relationships will be considered legitimate and deserted women will be entitled to maintenance from their partners.

Coming just ahead of the Lok Sabha elections, the Uniform Civil Code, Uttarakhand, 2024 bill ticks off an important item on the BJP's ideological agenda — a common law on marriage, divorce, land, property and inheritance for all citizens, irrespective of their religion.

It is likely to be studied and possibly implemented by BJP governments in states like Gujarat and Assam. Only Goa has a common civil law, in operation since the Portuguese rule.

As it sets out common provisions, the bill effectively bans polygamy and halala — without naming them — practiced among a section

of Muslims. Marriages can be solemnised through separate rituals, like saptapadi, nikah and anand karaj, followed by different communities.

On Tuesday, the second day of a special session of the assembly, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami entered the House with a copy of the original Constitution.

Ruling party members thumped their desks and chanted "Bharat Mata ki Jai", "Vande Mataram" and "Jai

Bill effectively bans polygamy, halala, mandates registration of live-in relationships

Shri Ram" as Dhami tabled the bill.

The original list of business for the day said the bill will be tabled, debated and passed by the House.

But Speaker Ritu Khanduri allowed more time after opposition members protested, raising slogans in the House. They wanted time to study the bill and then offer their views. "It seems the government wants to pass the bill without a debate in violation of legislative traditions," Leader of Opposition Yashpal Arya had said. **PTI**

MADDOCK FILMS

JIO STUDIOS & DINESH VIJAN present

An Impossible Love Story

TERI BAATON MEIN AISA ULJHA JIYA

directed by AMIT JOSHI & ARADHANA SAH
produced by DINESH VIJAN, JYOTI DESHPANDE & LAXMAN UTEKAR
a MADDOCK FILMS production

in cinemas **THIS FRIDAY**

Pen Marudhar & Panorama Studios Release

PVR · INOX · Cinépolis · GOPALAN · MIRAJ · ROCKLINE · CINEPHILE · HRC · Bharathi Cinemas · MOVIE TIME & OTHER CINEMAS.

FARNAZ

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH CENTENARY OF PADMABHUSHAN PANDIT C. R. VYAS

11 Sunday Feb 2024

3 pm onwards
Please be seated by 2.45 pm

Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Malleswaram, Bangalore

C. R. VYAS CENTENARY CELEBRATION

GANAPATI BHAT · BHARATHI PRATHAP · JAYATEERTH MEVUNDI · SHASHWATI MANDAL · VENKATESH KUMAR

Admission cards Rs. 1500 | 1000 (incl of GST) | 500
available on bookmyshow · Few Seats Reserved

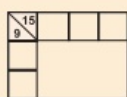
For Enquiries WhatsApp only **7045597505**

Brought to you by **GRACE FOUNDATION** Curated & Managed by **LICHFL LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD**

॥ पंचम निषाद ॥

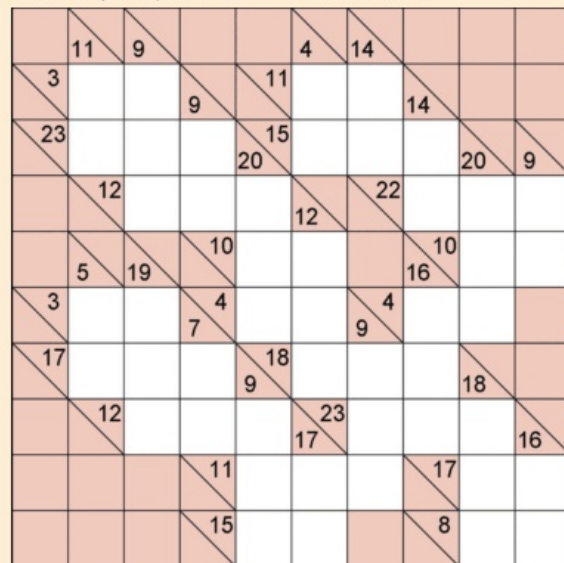
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

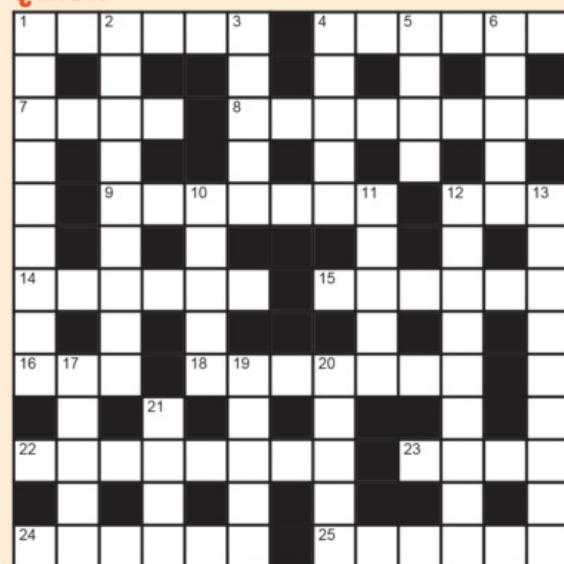


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 1 Part of speech (6)
- 4 The State Archaeological _____ is located in Cubbon Park (6)
- 7 _____ facto : by that very fact ? (4)
- 8 Temporary expedients (8)
- 9 Insanity (7)
- 12 Form of expression? (3)
- 14 Intrinsic (6)
- 15 Thwart (6)
- 16 Kilolitres, abbr. (3)
- 18 Deep-seated enmity (7)
- 22 Chess champion Garry _____ (8)
- 23 Dejected (4)
- 24 Motionless (6)
- 25 Deep gorge (6)

DOWN

- 1 Too much to put up with? (1,3,5)
- 2 Clerical garb (9)
- 3 Indian wild buffalo (5)
- 4 Emotional states (5)
- 5 Mark or symbol (4)
- 6 Situated above (5)
- 10 Discourage (5)
- 11 Apply oneself (to work, etc) (3,2)
- 12 Naval jurisdiction (9)
- 13 _____ and true : the jury? (6,3)
- 17 Minimal (5)
- 19 Of or relating to compounds of gold (5)
- 20 Relating to or of a city (5)
- 21 Catch sight of (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: R EQUALS U
XB EVR NDFH KV TVKBXMHKTH
XK QHVB, EVR DJH OSXTH
MHBDOHM XK ONH JDTH VB
WXBH.



Linemaro

You've got class



Mindchow

If one doesn't know to which port one is sailing, no wind is favourable



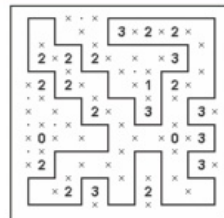
Joke of the day

I visited the offices of the SPCA today. It's tiny: you couldn't swing a cat in there

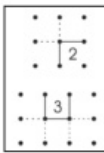
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

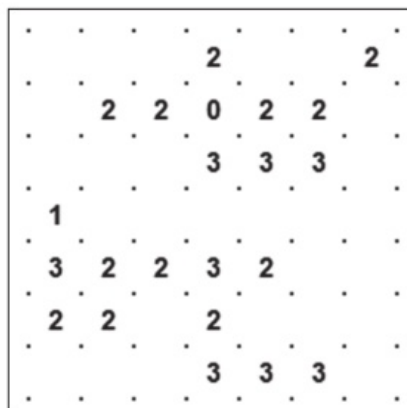


(Fig B) Not Allowed

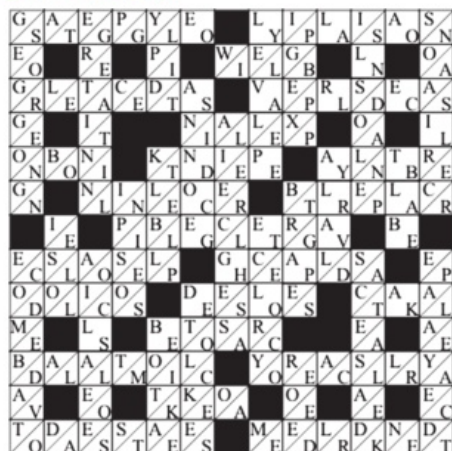
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

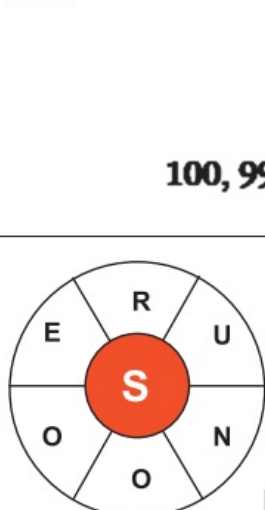
- 1 Drama; 6 A alum;
- 7 Lo ICC; 8 It hen;
- 9 Rakes

DOWN

- 1 C Stud; 2 A halo;
- 3 A milk; 4 Maine;
- 5 Carer

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



100, 99.5, 98.5, 97, 95, 92.5, 89.5, ?

Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

11 Average; 13 Good; 15 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

$\square \square \square \square = 10$

1 5 5 9

Medium

$\square \square \square \square = 24$

3 5 5 8

Hard

$\square \square \square \square = 5$

2 4 6 3

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Shirt is not as long. 2. Sign is moved. 3. Branch is different. 4. Fence is not as long. 5. Hair is different. 6. Foot is turned.

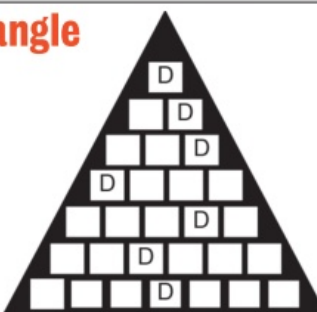
Riddler

Fill in the sentence below so that the first two words combine to make the third word. For example, given "The _____ was closing in, making his _____ harder but through his _____ of contacts he was able to evade the police." you would fill in NET, WORK, and NETWORK. The _____ count in the imported food was particularly worrying as there weren't _____ holes in the packaging, which had been shipped from _____.

Alpha triangle

- 1 Fourth letter
- 2 Anno Domini
- 3 Small amount
- 4 Move quickly
- 5 Business
- 6 Passionate
- 7 Abundant, green

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be



made at each step answering to the clue given.

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson



Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil



Hart of the city



Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20

Today, you may be busy at work. Your network may increase, potentially leading to a significant business order. Innovation in partnership is likely, along with potential investments boosting your business. Improved emotional connection with your spouse is indicated.



Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23

Today, inner strength may lead to short-term gains in investments. Favourable relationships with superiors and possible promotions are likely. Increased prestige and work-related travel are also possible.



Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22

Today, positive vibes surround you, paving the way for new business ventures and long-distance travel. Strengthened bonds with your spouse lead to domestic harmony.



Taurus Apr 21 - May 20

Today, family engagements may occupy your time, bringing happiness. New income sources may enhance your financial situation. Control over unnecessary expenses is advised, while investments in worthwhile assets may elevate your social status.



Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23

Today, blessings from the moon may bring high positions and improved performance at work. Encounters with influential individuals may provide guidance. Domestic issues are easily managed, fostering harmony.



Capricorn Dec 23 - Jan 20

Today, peak performance at work and improved relationships with superiors lead to new responsibilities and promotions. Health issues may improve, and disputes with siblings may be resolved. Job seekers may find new opportunities.



Gemini May 21 - Jun 21

Today, blessings from elders may enhance your patience and focus. Success in business and personal life is indicated, with a balance between spending and saving, boosting your financial security.



Libra Sep 24 - Oct 22

Today, happiness prevails with possible religious visits, providing inner strength. Charitable acts and overseas travel are indicated. Couples may find suitable matches, while singles may meet potential partners.



Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

Today, focus on children's education and plans for their future. Couples may receive good news regarding children. Considerations for higher education may lead to career advancement. Natives in education, consulting, and banking sectors may excel.



Cancer Jun 22 - July 23

Today, dissatisfaction and lethargy may affect your productivity, leading to project delays. Love relationships should avoid major decisions. Job seekers may face setbacks in interviews.



Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 22

Today, unhappiness and dullness may hinder productivity and affect professional and personal standing. Caution is advised to avoid accidents. Love relationships may face challenges, and job seekers may experience setbacks.



Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

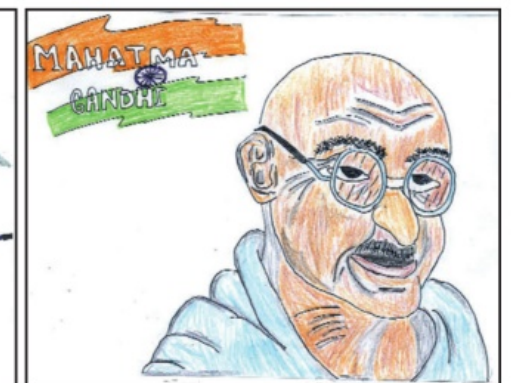
Today, dissatisfaction and irresponsibility may lead to financial losses and family concerns. Careful scrutiny of documents is advised. Postponing home renovations is recommended amidst elder health issues.



KIDZONE



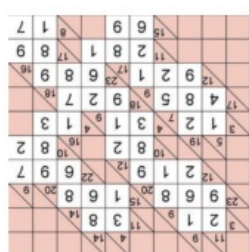
Shalom Nickson, 13 Years, Raj Rajeshwari English School



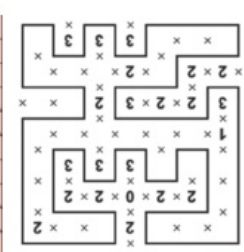
Jason Xavier, 12 Years, Indiranagar Cambridge School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

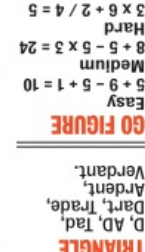
SOLUTIONS



KAKURO



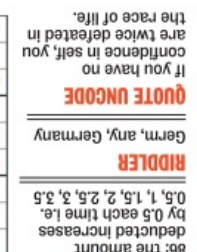
LOOP



ALPHA



SUDOKU



MENSA PUZZLE



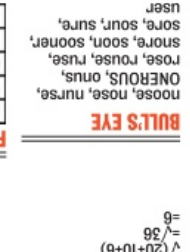
QUICK



STRIKE OUT



FAST FIVE



BULLS' EYE



Moved by story-telling

Actor Alia Bhatt has come on board as the executive producer for the crime series 'Poacher'. Excited to be associated with the project, Alia in a statement said, "Being part of this incredibly significant project is an honor, for both me and the entire team at Eternal Sunshine Productions."

The impact of *Poacher* was deeply personal, and Richie's portrayal of the urgent issue of wildlife crime resonated strongly with me and the team." She added, "The storytelling genuinely moved me, especially knowing it's based on true events, that sheds light on brutal crimes occurring in our forests. I am confident that *Poacher* will serve as an eye-opener, delivering a powerful message to be more compassionate and considerate towards all living beings. It's a call to embrace coexistence and I am genuinely thrilled to be collaborating with Richie, QC and Prime Video and to contribute to this narrative." Alia debuted as a producer with the 2022 Netflix India film *Darlings*. 'Poacher' is created by Richie Mehta, who is best known for making 'Delhi Crime' series. 'Poacher' stars Nimisha Sajayan, Roshan Mathew, and Dibyendu Bhattacharya in lead roles. It is an investigative crime series based on true events. —ETimes

Director's take

Sandeep Reddy Vanga praises Rashmika's performance

Director Sandeep Reddy Vanga addressed Rashmika Mandanna's performance in 'Animal,' noting that despite her efforts, she didn't receive recognition from audiences and award bodies. He contrasted this with Triptii Dimri, who garnered significant attention despite having a smaller role. Vanga's brother, Pranay, previously suggested that Triptii utilised her PR machinery to gain attention, which hurt Rashmika.

In an interview with Siddharth Kannan, Vanga addressed these topics, stating that he attended the recent Filmfare Awards to support the cast and crew, despite knowing he wouldn't win.

He highlighted Rashmika Mandanna's performance. "She wasn't even nominated," he said, adding, "It was not an easy performance. She was giggling, laughing, going mad, going crazy... It's not at

all easy. And it was an 11-minute scene. She was holding the scene." He continued, "I generally don't believe in awards, but I went because we had 19 nominations, and the entire team was happy, so why should I be an absentee director there?"

Vanga stated that he has no idea why she was not nominated, and he has no interest in finding out.

When asked if Triptii's fan base overwhelmed Rashmika, as Pranay previously stated, Vanga said, "I don't know if she overshadowed her, but Rashmika is very busy. She was so busy that she didn't have time to give an interview. That's okay. Maybe that's also why people felt she was overshadowed."

Further, Vanga praised Rashmika and Triptii: "The film had so many different facets, it could have been difficult to focus on just them. But Triptii also She was well prepared with her lines, and she shot that confession scene after shooting for 36 hours."

—ETimes

Warm wishes

Bollywood actress Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, who was last seen in the pan-India film 'Ponniyin Selvan: II', wished her husband Abhishek Bachchan on his birthday.

This comes amid separation rumours between the couple as the reports of trouble in paradise of Abhishek and Aishwarya left the fans of the actors wondering about what went wrong between the couple.

However, recently Aishwarya took to her Instagram and shared two pictures on the occasion of her husband's birthday. The first picture shows Abhishek in the company of his

wife Aishwarya, and their daughter Aradhya Bachchan.

The second picture is a childhood picture of the 'Guru' actor. The actress wrote in the caption, "Here's wishing you Happy Birthday with much happiness, love, calm, peace and good health God Bless. Shine on." Meanwhile, the rumour mills have been abuzz with the separation of the couple. It was also reported that the actress had left the house of her in-laws and has been living separately. The rumours started doing the rounds since the premiere of Agastya Nanda's film 'The Archies'. — IANS



Effect of bad habits

Director Mallikarjun Hiretanad is flying high on the successful completion of shooting of his maiden movie *Koleyadavane Koleyara*. Hiretanad has bankrolled the movie that is expected to be released in March. Its trailer was released at SRV Theater on Friday by Kalaburagi MLA Allamaprabhu Patil.

The story is what happens if a youth is addicted to bad habits and has friends with similar lifestyles and the problems he has to face for

survival in society.

Hiretanad said the movie revolves around four different characters. "I struggled to make this movie. I was born in Haveri and brought up in Tumakuru. I directed and bankrolled this movie because of my passion to make movies. The movie highlights what happens to a village youth, from an eco-



nomically weaker family, who comes to Bengaluru. The movie has emotional elements. It also explains bonding between father and daughter," said Mallikarjun.

Sidhu NR, who plays a key character, said he did not want to disclose the story. "Generally heroes rescue heroines but this movie is different. Each character narrates a story. The audiences will like one or the other of such stories," said Sidhu. Kiran, another actor in the movie, said he came into contact with Hiretanad while he was acting in a web series. "I play a police inspector," he said.



Songs of love

Music director Mano Murthy, who debuted in Sandalwood with *America America* in 1997 and earned fame for scoring music for the blockbuster *Mungaru Male*, is bullish about the success of his 35th movie *Pranayam* at the box office.

"I am confident that moviegoers will support *Pranayam*. The movie has five melody songs. It is a different love story. It became easy for me to score music since the lyrics are good. I composed music for these songs in the US where it is convenient and comfortable for me. *Pranayam* will become one of the successful movies in 2024," says Mano Murthy.

Though Mano is known for scoring music for romantic songs, he says he



does not like to watch romantic movies except the English movie *Titanic*. *Pranayam* is scheduled for release on Friday. Paramesh, who handled the megaphone for Kannada movies *Pallakki*, *Ganapa*, and *Parijatha*, has written the script and bankrolled this film under the P2 Productions in association with Manasi Ventures. S Dattatreya has helmed *Pranayam*. Rajvardhan plays the lead while Naina Ganguli is the female lead.